National Statistics Postcode Directory

2007 User Guide

A Product of ONS Geography

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1. Introduction

The National Statistics Postcode Directory (NSPD) relates both current and terminated postcodes in the United Kingdom to a range of current statutory administrative, electoral, health and other area geographies. It also links postcodes to pre-2002 health areas, 1991 Census enumeration districts (for England and Wales), 2001 Census Output Areas (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland), Super Output Areas (England and Wales) and Scottish Datazones. It helps support the production of area based statistics from postcoded data. The NSPD is produced by ONS Geography, which provides geographic support to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and geographic services used by other organisations. The NSPD is issued quarterly.

This User Guide contains information about the NSPD including:

- directory content;
- data currency;
- the methodology for assigning areas to postcodes;
- standard names and codes;
- data formats; and
- data quality and limitations.

A set of **Version Notes** accompanies each quarterly release of the NSPD. These contain a range of summary statistics and highlight important issues that may affect customers. The **Version Notes** provide information about postcode reorganisations, administrative and electoral area changes, the introduction of new methodologies and/or geographies and limitations that are specific to a particular release of the NSPD.

The NSPD reflects current and terminated postcodes using information supplied on a monthly basis by Royal Mail. The NSPD relates postcodes (as at the third Friday of the month prior to each release) to administrative and electoral areas as at May 2005 and also to the latest known health areas. The area assignments for current postcodes in Scotland are to the electoral wards introduced in 1999 and the Council Areas introduced in 1996, both of which still existed at 31st December 2006. The area assignments for current postcodes in Northern Ireland are to the electoral wards and District Council Areas introduced in 1992, which still existed at 31st December 2006.

The NSPD uses the ONS standard codes for administrative and electoral areas and the NHS codes for health areas. Code ranges for other geographies are those used by the organisation responsible for the geographies where a code range already exists. Look up files linking these codes to statutory area names are sent out with the NSPD as a separate electronic file. Customers are encouraged to adopt the ONS standard names and codes where possible, as these are the recognised standard for National Statistics.

The 'Gridlink®' methodology used to create the NSPD, based on 1-metre grid references and digital administrative and electoral area boundaries, was introduced in November 2000. Further information on the Gridlink® initiative is provided in Section 6.

Customers may opt for either the 'full' NSPD or 'core' NSPD containing specific fields, each available with 1m or 100m grid references and a choice of area coverage. Annex G shows the full Field Specification and Annex H shows the core Field Specification. The record specification at Annex B includes complete details of all available fields.

The NSPD is supplied with both a 7-character postcode comprising an outward code (2-4 characters) and an inward code (always 3 characters), or an 8-character postcode (includes a space between the outward and inward codes).

The NSPD is available on CD-ROM (see Annex C) and order forms can be obtained by contacting ONS Geography Customer Services (see below).

A selection of useful web links is included at Annex E.

Unit postcodes remain the copyright of Royal Mail. All other information on the NSPD is Crown copyright.

Any queries that are not answered within this User Guide or in the accompanying Version Notes should be directed to:

ONS Geography Customer Services
Office for National Statistics
Segensworth Road
Titchfield
FAREHAM
Hampshire
PO15 5RR

Tel: 01329 813243
GTN 3042 3243
Fax: 01329 813383

E-mail: ons.geography@ons.gov.uk

Note: ONS Geography does not have the capability to deal with detailed postcode queries relating to Scotland and Northern Ireland, but can pass them on to the appropriate government departments.

2. New Information

Latest geographies included on the NSPD

The following geographies are now routinely available on the NSPD:

- Latest pan-SHA information for England
- Merged SHAs for England
- New Health Board and Community Health Partnership areas for Scotland
- New Primary Care areas for England

Further information is provided in the **Version Notes**.

3. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why are some postcodes not assigned to administrative and electoral areas?

- This mainly applies to new postcodes, which are assigned grid references by ONS Geography using imputation techniques - see Sections 7 and 8. In some cases the imputation procedure cannot assign a grid reference and, because the Gridlink® processing system assigns postcodes to administrative and electoral areas using grid references with digital administrative and electoral area boundaries, codes for the administrative and electoral areas cannot be derived. In time, the addresses in the new postcodes are surveyed by Ordnance Survey, who then assign accurate grid references. Additionally some Scottish postcodes

appear without areal information due to the methods used by GROS to assign geographic information to their postcodes. See also paragraph 9.

Why are some postcodes assigned to the wrong administrative and electoral areas?

- There are two reasons:
  1. Imputation: Some postcodes are assigned to administrative and electoral areas using an imputed grid reference. Imputation is not an exact science and can cause postcodes to be wrongly assigned until more accurate information becomes available. Please inform ONS Geography Customer Services of any postcodes considered to be wrongly assigned.
  2. Straddling: As the postal and administrative/electoral geographies do not map directly onto one another, postcodes often straddle administrative and electoral boundaries. Postcodes are always assigned to single administrative and electoral areas based upon a single grid reference (which is the mean of all the addresses in the postcode or the address closest to the mean). This will inevitably lead to apparent wrong assignments, where addresses in a postcode fall in two administrative/electoral areas (see Section 8).

Why don't postcode areas follow administrative and electoral area boundaries?

- Postcode areas are defined and used by Royal Mail for the purpose of efficient mail delivery and have no relationship with administrative and electoral areas. Royal Mail requires a relatively stable geography in order to deliver its services, which the administrative and electoral area geography cannot provide.

Why don't all the 1991 electoral ward/ED codes on the NSPD match the current electoral ward codes?

- The 1991 electoral ward/ED assignments relate to administrative and electoral areas as constituted at the 1991 Census. Many administrative and electoral areas have undergone statutory boundary changes since then, leading to new electoral wards with new codes; these new codes are used for current postcode-to-ward assignments.

4. Postcode content

The NSPD contains both 'live' postcodes and postcodes which have been terminated by Royal Mail but not subsequently re-used (see Section 10).

Postcode coverage is for the entire United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The split between large and small users and country and the changes in the numbers of postcodes since the previous NSPD are shown in Table 1 of the **Version Notes.**

The numbers of postcodes, postcode sectors and postcode districts by postcode areas are shown in Table 2 of the **Version Notes.**

The NSPD contains fixed length 7- and 8-character postcode formats, and the variable length e-Gif (e-Government Interoperability Framework) standard postcode format. The latter allows for a single space between the two (outward and inward) parts of the postcode (see Annex B).

5. Currency of data

Postcodes

Information about changes to the postcode geography is routinely received from Royal Mail on a monthly basis and so the currency of the UK postcodes on any version of the NSPD will usually be to the third Friday in the previous month.

Administrative/electoral and health areas

Information about the currency of administrative/electoral and health areas on the NSPD is contained in the **Version Notes.**

6. Gridlink®: general

The postcode is a key piece of data that can provide a geo-spatial reference for many uses beyond the delivery of mail. In order to make full use of its potential, and to deliver improved consistency, a consortium of organisations was formed in 1999 to allow the specialist resources of each member to be pooled. The Gridlink® Consortium consists of Royal Mail Group plc, Ordnance Survey (GB), General Register Office for Scotland, Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland (OSNI®) and ONS.

It was soon recognised that a core set of data within each Consortium member's postcode products needed to be consistent and branded. The branding name is 'Gridlink®' and the core data are:

- All current (i.e. 'live') UK unit postcodes (but ONS will continue to maintain postcodes terminated and not subsequently re-used by Royal Mail).
- Grid references to 1 metre resolution (and optionally truncated to 100 metres).
- Positional quality indicators for grid references.
- UK country codes.
- Electoral ward codes.
- Administrative local authority district codes.
- Administrative unitary authority codes.
- Administrative county codes.
- Health regional area codes.
- Health authority codes.

Each of the Gridlink® Consortium members produces their postcode products based upon the core data. A diagram showing the Gridlink® data and all other geography allocation methods is included at Annex F.

7. Grid references

Postcode grid references in the NSPD are available in 1 or 100 metre resolution and the majority are derived from the Ordnance Survey product ADDRESS-POINT® that contains grid references for each address to 0.1 metre resolution. Newly introduced postcodes will initially have a grid reference that has been imputed by ONS Geography. In due course though these will be replaced by improved ADDRESS-POINT® grid references which use data supplied by Ordnance Survey's field surveyors.

Each grid reference is given a Positional Quality Indicator (PQI) to denote the accuracy of the grid reference, as follows:

1 within the building of the matched address closest to the postcode mean,
2 as for 1 above, except by visual inspection of Landline maps (Scotland only),
3 approximate to within 50 metres,
4 postcode unit mean (mean of matched addresses with the same postcode, but not snapped to an address),
5 imputed by ONS, by reference to surrounding postcode grid references,
6 postcode sector mean (mainly PO Boxes),
7 not in use,
8 postcode terminated, last known ONS grid reference used,
9 no co-ordinates available,
0 not in use.

The grid references provided for Northern Ireland postcodes are derived from the OSNI® product 'Pointer' and use the Irish National Grid system that covers all of Ireland and is independent of the British National Grid.

No grid references are provided for postcodes in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

8. Assignment of postcodes to administrative and electoral areas and other geographies held on the NSPD

Administrative and electoral areas – GB

As part of the Gridlink® initiative, postcodes in Great Britain are assigned to administrative and electoral areas by Ordnance Survey (GB) using a 'point-in-polygon' methodology that matches 0.1 metre resolution grid references for postcodes (derived from ADDRESS-POINT® – see Section 7) against their Boundary-Line™ product. Boundary-Line™ is now produced in June and contains all administrative and electoral area boundary changes to the previous May.

Administrative and electoral areas – Northern Ireland

A similar process is being used by OSNI®, which enables a UK postcode directory to be produced. The currency of the Northern Ireland administrative and electoral area data is to the present time as their boundaries have remained unchanged since 1992.

Health areas and administrative and electoral areas

Changes to administrative and electoral area boundaries are not automatically applied to health areas so the two boundary sets have ceased to be co-terminous, but the impact on postcode assignments has been minimised through use of digital health area boundaries created when initially defined in terms of co-terminous administrative and electoral areas.

Similarly, in Scotland, administrative and electoral boundary changes do not routinely affect health boundaries although health area boundaries may later be altered to align with changed administrative and electoral area boundaries.

As changes to administrative and electoral boundaries in Northern Ireland usually change about every 10 years boundary co-terminosity is more stable than elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

Other geographies held on the NSPD

Other area assignments are based on point-in-polygon techniques and the appropriate digital boundaries.

9. Scottish input to the NSPD

The General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) provides ONS with quarterly input to the NSPD, covering a range of geographies for Scottish postcodes.

Large user postcodes

In Scotland, boundaries are not drawn for large user postcodes. Instead large users are linked to the nearest small user postcode (small user link). Geographic data assigned to large user postcodes is that of the small user link. However not every large user is assigned geographic data. The exceptions are large users that are PO Boxes, large users that GROS cannot find a small user link for and new large users that have still to be linked. Instead GROS assign a Council Area (ward) code via

imputation procedures for their Postcode Index (Scottish equivalent to the NSPD). However, in order to maintain UK consistency the NSPD uses the Gridlink® grid reference, ward and health codes (and other geographies based upon them) in these instances. For more information on Scottish large users please contact GROS (see Section 1).

Split postcodes

GROS splits a postcode into separate polygons when:

- a postcode straddles 2 or more Council Area boundaries;
- a postcode straddles the Scottish/English border and when
- an island and the mainland or 2 islands share a postcode.

The split postcode is identified by an 'A', 'B' or 'C' suffix in the Scottish Postcode Index. However, for the purposes of the NSPD split postcodes are not recognised. Instead GROS converts the split record into a single record assigning to it the area codes from the largest part of the split. The results may produce differences in the allocation of area codes when compared with the Postcode Index and users should refer to GROS for specific information relating to Scottish split postcodes (see Section 1).

The Gridlink® core dataset covers grid reference, ward code and health code for UK postcodes - but other geographies, where applicable, are assigned from the GROS file.

10. PO Boxes and non-geographic postcodes

Non-geographic postcodes can either be special postcodes assigned to some large users of the postal service or PO Boxes that lie within a (pseudo) postcode district that does not form a discrete part of a post town. These will all have been assigned a grid reference, usually the local Royal Mail sorting office, and the majority have a PQI of 1 but some have been assigned a PQI of 6 (see Section 7).

11. Terminated postcodes

Postcodes are frequently terminated by Royal Mail for various reasons but most commonly it is due to the demolition/re-development of buildings or to postcode reorganisations (see Section 12).

Terminated postcodes are occasionally re-used by Royal Mail but not usually before an elapsed period of two years. In such circumstances, all terminated postcodes and their grid references are retained on the NSPD and a ‘termination date’ is added which provides a clear indication of a postcode’s status.

Areal data assigned to terminated postcodes are updated prior to each release of the NSPD, so the directory contains *current* information linked to each record.

If, and when, a postcode is subsequently re-used by Royal Mail the old grid reference and termination date are removed, thus deleting all reference to the former existence of the postcode from the NSPD. The new location of the postcode will initially have a grid reference imputed by ONS Geography, which will eventually be replaced by an improved one derived from Ordnance Survey's ADDRESS-POINT® product.

As the Gridlink® system processes only ‘live’ postcodes it is not possible to assign Gridlink® quality grid references to postcodes terminated prior to November 2000. Grid references for these postcodes have been copied from the old ‘Traditional’

NSPD and have been given a single PQI (value 8). However, in instances where terminated postcodes have been replaced by new postcodes on a one-for-one basis (as part of postcode reorganisations) the area information and the associated PQIs for the 'reorganised' postcode have been copied back to the terminated postcode.

The numbers of terminated postcodes included in each issue of the NSPD are shown in Table 4 of the **Version Notes**.

12. Postcode reorganisations

Royal Mail conduct biannual postcode reorganisations (usually in May and November) in order to create more postcodes in areas where the number of postcodes that can be created under the current structure is exhausted. For example, SO3 was reorganised some years ago into SO31 and SO32 to cater for current demands, and the reorganisation additionally allows SO33-SO39 postcodes to be assigned at a later date.

Royal Mail issue lists of postcode reorganisations in their 'Update' series. Details of the latest 'Updates' in this series that have been incorporated in the current version of the NSPD are given in the **Version Notes**. Details of postcode reorganisations can also be found at royalmail.com - the Royal Mail website.

13. Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) and Health Boards

The National Administrative Codes Service (NACS) in England, ONS on behalf of Scotland and Health Solutions Wales are responsible for maintaining their respective health area codes, and these were reorganised in 2002 (England), 2003 (Wales) and 2006 (Scotland). The SHAs in England were further reorganised by the NHS on 1st July 2006 to reduce the number from 28 to 10. Details of the various code ranges are given at Annex B, and information regarding the latest changes can be found in the **Version Notes**.

14. Primary Care Organisations (PCOs), Local Health Boards (LHBs) and Community Health Partnerships (CHPs)

Postcodes on the NSPD have been assigned PCO codes (England), LHB codes (Wales) or CHP codes (Scotland). Postcodes in Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man (for which there are no equivalent areas) have been assigned a dummy code of 'X98'.

The Primary Care geography in England was reorganised significantly on 1st October 2006. When PCOs were statutorily defined, they were done so in terms of whole local authority districts and/or electoral wards (in most instances) that existed at the time. There are now 148 Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and four Care Trusts.

Each of the 22 Local Health Boards in Wales comprises a single unitary authority as at 1st April 2003.

Community Health Partnerships (CHPs) were established by the NHS Boards in Scotland as key building blocks in the modernisation of the NHS joint services. Managed jointly by local authorities and health boards, CHPs nest within Council Area boundaries but may cross Health Board boundaries. There are 40 CHPs covering the whole of Scotland.

15. 1991 Census enumeration districts (EDs)

The NSPD assigns 1991 Census EDs to postcodes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. For postcodes in England and Wales, there were originally two types of assignment:

- Postcodes existing at the 1991 Census whose EDs were assigned using information on the census forms. These are mostly residential postcodes.
- Postcodes existing at the 1991 Census whose EDs could not be assigned using Census forms, or postcodes introduced since the 1991 Census whose EDs have been assigned by point-in-polygon techniques. These are a mix of residential and business postcodes.

Over time, the use of the original methodology to assign EDs to postcodes caused inaccuracies for some allocations. From February 2007, the common 'point-in-polygon' methodology was introduced to allocate all postcodes to EDs, bringing this geography in line with the majority on the NSPD. The original postcode:ED lookup is provided as part of the NSPD metadata.

Many postcodes existing at the 1991 Census straddled ED boundaries. In such instances and where EDs have been assigned using information from census forms, a single 'best-fit' ED is given in the lookup (based on the ED with the largest number of households in that postcode). All EDs on the NSPD use the postcode 1m grid reference to obtain an accurate assignment.

There are also a small proportion of postcodes for which it has not been possible to assign EDs. This is because either there was insufficient information at the time of the 1991 Census or, for newer postcodes, because the postcode does not have a 1 metre grid reference.

EDs have not been assigned to postcodes in Scotland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The ED field holds a pseudo code for postcodes in these countries.

16. Census Output Areas (COAs)

Postcodes were originally assigned to COAs by one of two methods.

Method 1:

A postcode to COA lookup was compiled incorporating those 1.52 million postcodes existing at the date of the 2001 Census (29 April) used to create COAs. The design of the COAs was constrained by those electoral ward boundaries promulgated in Statutory Instruments by the end of December 2002. Consequently some postcodes were split by the electoral ward boundaries. In these instances the split postcodes were assigned to a single COA on the basis of where the majority of the population was located. This differed from the methodology used to assign postcodes to electoral wards and administrative areas, which use the grid reference of the address closest to the postcode mean and digital boundaries.

Assigning postcodes to COAs using a population-weighted methodology and the best-fitting COAs to electoral wards can result in different postcode:electoral ward assignments when compared to a direct address-weighted point-in-polygon assignment (i.e. Gridlink®). This is because there may be more people in one part of a split postcode which results in the whole postcode being assigned to a particular COA yet, in some circumstances, there may be more addresses in the other part of the split which results in the postcode being assigned to a different COA.

Within the 1.52 million postcodes, some 267,354 large user postcodes, mainly large employer PO Box postcodes, were reviewed for the purpose of producing Census

statistics because their grid references were linked to the local Royal Mail sorting office rather than their physical location. The large user postcodes included in the review were assigned to the appropriate COAs based on their geographical location but their Gridlink® grid references were not changed. Consequently, the use of point-in-polygon methodology to assign these postcodes to COAs produced different COA assignments to those included on the lookup.

Method 2:

The remaining 0.54 million postcodes in England and Wales, which comprise both new postcodes since April 2001 and postcodes terminated prior to that date, were assigned to a COA using a set of digital COA boundaries and their Gridlink® grid references. See Annex E for a link to Census OA corrections.

Over time, the use of the original methodologies to assign COAs to postcodes caused inaccuracies for some allocations. From August 2006, the common 'point-in-polygon methodology used in 'Method 2', above, was introduced to allocate all postcodes to COAs, bringing this geography in line with the majority on the NSPD, with the original allocations being included in the accompanying metadata.

The first six characters of the COA represent the CAS ward code (see Section 18) and the remaining four are a numerical COA code.

16.1 Postcodes assigned to both English and Scottish COAs

The Scottish Census Office, GROS, maintain a separate Scottish postcode directory called the Postcode Index. Two postcodes assigned to Scottish COAs in the Postcode Index (because a part of each postcode falls in Scotland) are assigned to English COAs in the NSPD (because the part of each postcode falling in England comprises a larger population). The postcodes are TD9 0TU and TD15 1UY. Consequently, the assignments for these postcodes will differ between the NSPD and the Postcode Index.

16.2 OA classification

The 2001 Area Classification of output areas is used to group together geographic areas according to key characteristics common to the population in that grouping. These groupings are called clusters, and are derived using 2001 population census data (see web link at Annex E for further details). The classification was originally produced with lower case characters which have been converted to upper case for consistency purposes on the NSPD.

17. Lower and Middle Layer Super Output Areas (SOAs) & Scottish data and intermediate zones

SOAs exist in England, Wales and Northern Ireland; the Scottish equivalents are called data zones and intermediate zones.

<u>England and Wales</u>

The Lower Layer SOAs have been designed with a mean population figure of 1500 and each consists of a grouping of Output Areas, typically five. There are 34,378 Lower Layer SOAs, with an absolute minimum population size of 1000.

The Middle Layer SOAs have a mean population figure of 7200 (minimum 5000) and consist of a grouping of Lower Layer SOAs. Middle Layer SOAs are constrained by the 2003 local authority boundaries used for 2001 Census outputs.

Scotland

Data zones are the core Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics geography. There are 6505 data zones, each containing between 500 and 1000 household residents.

Intermediate zones are the geography that sits above data zones and they have a minimum population of 2,500 - 6,000, which are of a size between the lower and middle layer SOAs in England and Wales. There are 1235 intermediate zones.

Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland Super Output Areas (SOAs) were released in 2005. There is one layer of SOA, with a population size between 1,300 and 2,800, similar in size to the lower layer SOAs in England and Wales.

18. Census Area Statistics (CAS) wards

In processing Census data for publication, eighteen 2003 'statistical' wards were identified as sub-threshold i.e. the count of population and households fell below the threshold for creating COAs and for the non-disclosive release of Census data. These 18 sub-threshold wards were combined with seven 'receiving wards' to form acceptably sized COAs and permit publication of data. The sub-threshold wards are not separately identified in the NSPD and postcodes in these 'statistical' wards have been assigned to their 'receiving' ward. The resulting set of wards is known as CAS wards. For postcodes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the first six characters of the COA code (which represents the CAS ward code) have been used in the NSPD to populate the 'CAS ward' field. Postcodes in Scotland have been assigned to CAS wards using an Output Area:CAS ward look-up supplied by GROS. As CAS wards in Scotland and Northern Ireland are regarded as distinct Scottish and Northern Irish geographies it has now been decided to include their respective code ranges. Details of all the CAS ward code ranges are included in the Record Specification at Annex B. The 18 sub-threshold wards in England and their 'receiving' wards are detailed in Annex D.

18.1 Output Area/CAS ward corrections in Milton Keynes, Monmouthshire and North Norfolk

The main Census 2001 results were produced for wards legally in existence on 31st December 2002, in line with the National Statistics policy on boundary change and to meet a widespread requirement for statistics for up to date areas. However, final digital versions of boundaries for some of these wards were not available in time for use in the main Census output, and a number of differences between the draft and final boundaries occurred.

Most differences are minor, but in three local authorities - Milton Keynes (two wards), Monmouthshire (19 wards) and North Norfolk (two wards) - the differences are large enough to mean that more accurate estimates of the Census Area Statistics (CAS) for a total of 23 wards can be produced by assigning Output Areas (OAs) to a different CAS ward to that used previously. The wards affected are:

00MGNW	Stony Stratford (Milton Keynes)
00MGNZ	Wolverton (Milton Keynes)
00PPNR	Caldicot Castle (Monmouthshire)
00PPNS	Cantref (Monmouthshire)
00PPNT	Castle (Monmouthshire)

00PPNU	Croesonen (Monmouthshire)
00PPNY	Dewstow (Monmouthshire)
00PPNZ	Dixton with Osbaston (Monmouthshire)
00PPPA	Drybridge (Monmouthshire)
00PPPC	Green Lane (Monmouthshire)
00PPPE	Lansdown (Monmouthshire)
00PPPF	Larkfield (Monmouthshire)
00PPPP	Mardy (Monmouthshire)
00PPPQ	Mill (Monmouthshire)
00PPPU	Priory (Monmouthshire)
00PPPZ	St. Christopher's (Monmouthshire)
00PPQA	St. Kingsmark (Monmouthshire)
00PPQC	Severn (Monmouthshire)
00PPQE	The Elms (Monmouthshire)
00PPQF	Thornwell (Monmouthshire)
00PPQJ	West End (Monmouthshire)
33UFHC	Lancaster North (North Norfolk)
33UFHD	Lancaster South (North Norfolk)

Further details are available on the National Statistics website.

19. 'Statistical' wards

'Statistical' wards are those electoral wards promulgated in Statutory Instruments by the end of a calendar year and implemented for statistical purposes on 1 April in the following year, irrespective of the year of statutory operation. The policy on statistical wards has been agreed by ministers and is intended to minimise the impact on statistics of the frequent changes to the electoral ward boundaries.

20. Local Education Authorities (LEAs)

LEAs are the bodies responsible for the local administration of state sector education services in England and Wales. Each LEA coincides with either a county[1], unitary authority, metropolitan district or London borough, and LEA boundaries are adjusted annually to correspond with any changes to the boundaries of these areas.

In Northern Ireland local education administration is the responsibility of five Education and Library Boards (Belfast, North Eastern, South Eastern, Southern, Western), which each cover one or more complete district council areas. These areas are now covered in the 'LEA' field on the NSPD and full details of the code range can be found in the Record Specification at Annex B.

In Scotland education administration is the responsibility of local government (i.e. each council area).

21. Parliamentary Constituencies

England, Wales, and Northern Ireland

Parliamentary Constituencies relate to those defined by the Parliamentary Constituencies (England) Order 1995, the Parliamentary Constituencies (Wales) Order 1995 and the Parliamentary Constituencies (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, and which came into effect at the May 1997 General Election. However, for the small number of constituencies affected by the Parliamentary Constituencies (England)

[1] The only exception to this is that the Isles of Scilly has its own LEA separate to that of Cornwall.

(Miscellaneous Changes) Order 1998, the NSPD reflects the changes which came into effect at the June 2001 General Election. No further changes are envisaged until 2009/2010.

Scotland

The Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Act 2004, passed by the UK Parliament in July 2004, came into effect upon the dissolution of the last UK Parliament and breaks the linkage between UK Parliament constituencies and Scottish Parliament constituencies. This has enabled the Westminster Government to reduce the number of Scottish constituencies in the UK parliament in line with recommendations made by the Boundary Commission for Scotland following its the Fifth Periodical Review of Constituencies (December 2004).

The Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order 2005 details the reduction of the number of constituencies for the UK Parliament from 72 to 59 Scottish seats. The changes bring the size of Scottish constituencies more into line with the size of English seats. English constituencies currently contain nearly 70,000 voters on average, compared to the Scottish average of 53,500.

Details of the code ranges are included in the Record Specification at Annex B.

22. European Electoral Regions (EERs)

European Electoral Regions are as defined in the European Parliamentary Elections Bill (Bill 65, 1997) to amend the European Parliamentary Elections Act 1978 so as to alter the method used in Great Britain for electing Members of the European Parliament. The Bill created nine Electoral Regions in England with 64 MEPs; Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each constitute a single Electoral Region, with 7 MEPs, 4 MEPs and 3 MEPs respectively.

23. Nomenclature of Units for Territorial Statistics (NUTS)

NUTS is a hierarchical classification of spatial units that provides a breakdown of the European Union's territory for producing regional statistics which are comparable across the Union.

In the United Kingdom, the five-tier NUTS structure was reviewed in 1998 as a consequence of the introduction of Government Office Regions and unitary authorities/council areas. The NUTS area classification comprises national administrative and electoral areas, except in Scotland where some NUTS areas comprise whole and/or local enterprise company areas.

NUTS levels 1-3 are frozen for a minimum of three years and NUTS levels 4 and 5 have formed new Local Administrative Units (LAUs) (levels 1 and 2). The smaller administrative units (former NUTS5 units) are now called LAU2 and NUTS4 units are LAU1.

Scotland routinely digitise their postcodes. Where postcodes have yet to be digitised it has not been possible to assign a NUTS code by point-in-polygon. As Scottish LAU2 codes are yet to be ratified by Eurostat, NUTS codes for Scotland are shown at LAU1 level.

A summary of the structure, including the numbers of areas for each country at each level, is shown at Annex A.

24. NHS pan SHAs and 'IT Clusters'

The five 'IT Clusters' that replaced Directorates of Health and Social Care from July 2003 to 31st March 2007 have themselves been replaced by three 'pan SHAs' from 1st April 2007. These pan SHA codes are included in the 'HRO' field on the NSPD. Each pan SHA consists of a group of Strategic Health Authorities. Their names and codes are shown below:

Pan SHA name	Code
North Midlands and the East Programme for IT (NMEPFiT)	Y51
Southern Programme for IT (SPFiT)	Y52
London Programme for IT (LPFiT)	Y53

25. Government Office Regions (GORs)

The nine GORs are the primary statistical subdivisions of England and also the areas in which the Government Offices for the Regions fulfil their role. Each GOR covers a number of local authorities.

26. Standard Statistical Regions (SSRs)

The eight SSRs were the primary statistical subdivisions of England before the GORs (see above) were adopted for this purpose in 1996. They are now rarely used.

27. Training and Enterprise Councils/Local Enterprise Companies (TEC/LECs)

TECs were government-funded bodies which aimed to foster local economic growth and development. They existed across England and Wales, but were replaced in 2001 by Local Learning and Skills Councils (LLSCs) in England, and in Wales by the regional offices of Education and Learning Wales (ELWa).

LECs are government-funded bodies which aim to foster local economic growth and development in Scotland. There are 21 LECs and these cover the whole of Scotland.

28. Travel to Work Areas (TTWAs)

TTWAs are used in labour market analysis and reflect reasonably self-contained zones in which the bulk of the resident population also work. They are built from 1991 electoral wards but no account is taken of local authority boundaries. TTWAs do not however cross national boundaries.

29. National Parks

National parks are designed to conserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of areas of outstanding landscape value, and to promote public understanding and enjoyment of these areas. There are currently 12 national parks in England and Wales. Of these, ten were designated in the 1950s following the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, The Broads (Norfolk/Suffolk) has had a similar status since 1989 and The New Forest was given national park status in 2005. The South Downs is not yet formally a national park but the designation process is underway. In Scotland the National Parks (Scotland) Act was passed in July 2000. The first Scottish national park, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, was established in July 2002, and the Cairngorms national park was established in March 2003. Their boundaries are not constrained by any other geography.

30. 1998 electoral wards

Electoral wards existing as at the end of 1998 are included on the NSPD. The significance of these codes is that the initial Neighbourhood Statistics data were released for 1998 electoral wards.

31. Urban/rural indicators

England & Wales

The rural and urban classification of postcodes for England and Wales allows datasets to be analysed according to different types of rural and urban area. This is based on the National Statistics Rural and Urban Classification of Output Areas released on 21 July 2004; the product of joint work between the Countryside Agency, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; National Assembly for Wales and Office for National Statistics.

Postcodes on the NSPD have been assigned to the urban or rural category of the Output Area into which each falls. Output Areas are treated as 'urban' if the majority of the population of an Output Area lives within settlements with a population of 10,000 or more. The remaining 'rural' Output Areas are grouped into three other broad morphological types based on the predominant settlement component – i.e. whether the population density for the output area shows characteristics that are predominantly town and fringe, predominantly village or predominantly dispersed (the latter includes hamlets and isolated dwellings).

The classification also categorises Output Areas based on context – i.e. whether the wider surrounding area of a given output area is sparsely populated or less sparsely populated.

Scotland

The urban/rural classification in Scotland is consistent with the Scottish Executive's core definition of rurality which defines settlements of 3,000 or less people to be rural. It also classifies areas as remote based on drive times from settlements of 10,000 or more people.

Postcodes on the NSPD have been assigned to the urban or rural category on an individual basis, based upon data received from GROS.

Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland, an eight band categorisation of settlements was introduced in February 2005. These categories range from Band A (Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area) to Band H (Small village, hamlet and open countryside) with bands A – E being classed as 'urban' and bands F – H being classed as 'rural'. The DOE (Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland) Planning Service statutory settlement development limits have been used as the geographical delineation of settlements.

Details of the code ranges are included in the Record Specification (Annex B) and a web link is included at Annex E.

32. Names and codes

The names of all administrative and health areas are the 'standard' names being adopted for use throughout National Statistics. The names are those used in Acts of

Parliament and Statutory Instruments to publish changes to the administrative and health geographies.

The codes contained in the NSPD are the corporate ONS codes. In establishing a set of corporate area codes, ONS has adopted the NHS coding scheme for health areas and the codes for other higher area geographies where they are already established and in current use. It is intended that the corporate ONS codes will also be adopted for use within National Statistics, but it is recognised that many data systems will be dependent on other existing coding systems and that wider acceptance and use of the corporate ONS codes will not be achieved in the short term. To overcome potential coding incompatibility ONS Geography has developed a Standard Names and Codes (SNAC) database containing a matrix look-up between the various coding schemes where links are possible and also an extended list of names and codes for other geographies (e.g. Parliamentary Constituencies):

Standard Names and Codes

Full names and codes listings are supplied with the NSPD. The names and codes for the administrative and health areas and the relationships between the two geographies are included in a Ward:Health matrix that is produced annually to reflect each year's boundary changes.

Ward:Health Matrix

This provides the constitution of each of the 28 strategic health authorities in terms of their constituent local authority districts and electoral wards. The constitutions at local authority district level have been provided by the Department of Health in respect of health authorities in England and by each of the other three UK constituent countries. All appropriate codes are also included.

33. Directory specifications

Annex B lists the specification for the records on the Gridlink® NSPD, giving the length and description of each field, the range of possible codes and any qualifying comments. It also provides further general information on each field, such as source, currency and extent of data. For those customers taking the NSPD in .dbf or Access 97 format, the field names are also given.

34. Data formats

Full and extract versions of the NSPD, in a range of data formats, are available on CD-ROM. Details are given in Annex C.

35. Use of the NSPD

The NSPD may be used only within the purchaser's authority or organisation as specified to, and accepted by, ONS Geography Customer Services in writing (see Section 1). Use of the NSPD for any other purpose must be declared to, and agreed by, ONS Geography Customer Services in writing prior to use.

In general terms, purchasers may use the NSPD freely within the purchasing authority/organisation and may also use the data for any activities that are resourced or funded by the purchasing authority/organisation. The purchaser has responsibility for ensuring that the NSPD satisfies their requirements.

Purchasers must obtain permission in writing from ONS Geography Customer Services before transferring the NSPD to a third party.

The information in the NSPD cannot be transferred or published (either in whole or in part), nor certain information derived from the NSPD, unless already agreed, without first obtaining permission in writing from ONS Geography Customer Services.

36. Limitations/data quality

No warranty is given by ONS as to the accuracy or comprehensiveness of the data contained on the NSPD or to the physical condition of the medium on which it is supplied. ONS will take reasonable steps to correct any identified errors and, if appropriate, will re-issue the NSPD without further charge.

Two types of errors may occur in the NSPD - omissions and inaccuracies. With such a large file it is inevitable that some information will be missing. Now that monthly postcode updating procedures are in place the likelihood of missing postcodes is very small. The very latest postcodes (i.e. those introduced between the latest monthly postcode update and the issue of the NSPD) will not be included, but any other missing postcodes are likely to have been absent from Royal Mail's Postcode Address File (PAF) which forms the basis of the Royal Mail monthly input into the NSPD. Missing postcodes should therefore be reported to ONS Geography (see Section 1) for forwarding to Royal Mail.

Inaccuracies also originate from two sources:

Straddling

The addresses forming each small user postcode are not co-terminous with the boundaries of administrative and health areas and other non-postal geographies. The inevitable result is that some postcodes straddle the boundaries of other areas. As each areal reference is generally assigned using the postcode's 1 metre grid reference clipped to the address closest to the postcode mean or the postcode unit mean (see Section 7), some addresses within a postcode may fall in two or more different areas.

It is possible therefore that the majority of addresses in a postcode are assigned to an area on the basis of the postcode's grid reference whereas they actually fall within one or more adjacent areas.

Wrong assignments

Given the necessity to impute 1 metre grid references for new postcodes (most of which will ultimately be replaced by better quality grid references derived from either Ordnance Survey's ADDRESS-POINT® or OSNI®'s Pointer® product) it is likely that the Gridlink® NSPD will always contain some wrong assignments. There will also be instances where accurate postcode grid references are unable to be obtained for other reasons, thus affecting the quality of the area assignments. Quality can be subjectively assessed from the PQIs of the grid references.

In the few instances where imputation techniques are unable to assign grid references to postcodes (usually where the base data are already imputed), it will not be possible to assign postcodes to the range of geographies included on the NSPD.

Customers should also note that the use of the NSPD to allocate individual addresses to geographies might be imprecise because of the effects of straddling and wrong assignments.

Any errors and/or omissions identified by NSPD customers should be notified to ONS Geography Customer Services (see Section 1), who, with the assistance of the appropriate Gridlink Consortium member organisation, will endeavour to:

- investigate all reports of suspected errors and/or omissions to areal references; and

- inform the customer of the outcome of the report within 5 working days of the receipt of the notification if the query can be resolved within ONS.

Corrections and identified omissions to the data content of the NSPD are included on the subsequent NSPD release.

Annex A

NUTS CLASSIFICATION AREAL LEVELS

NUTS (Nomenclature of Units for Territorial Statistics) is a hierarchical classification of spatial units that provides a breakdown of the European Union's territory for producing regional statistics which are comparable across the Union.

N.B. Due to the length of time taken by Eurostat to ratify the NUTS boundaries, and ONS Geography policy of using only boundaries that have been validated, the latest NUTS codes for England and Wales are current to 2003, and Scotland (at LAU1 level) are current to 2004.

A summary of the structure, including the numbers of areas for each country at each level, is shown below.

	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Total
NUTS 1	Government Office Regions (9)	Country (1)	Country (1)	Country (1)	12
NUTS 2	Individual counties or groups of counties/London boroughs/metropolitan districts/unitary authorities (30)	Groups of unitary authorities (2)	Groups of whole/part unitary authorities and/or local enterprise company areas (4)	Country (1)	37
NUTS 3	Individual counties/unitary authorities or groups of counties/London boroughs/metropolitan districts/unitary authorities/county districts (93)	Groups of unitary authorities (12)	Groups of whole/part unitary authorities and/or local enterprise company areas (23)	Groups of district unitary authorities (5)	133
LAU 1	Individual London boroughs/metropolitan districts/unitary authorities/ county districts (354)	Individual unitary authorities (22)	Individual or groups of whole/part unitary authorities and/or local enterprise company areas (41)	Individual district unitary authorities (26)	443
LAU 2	Electoral wards/divisions (8,005[1])	Electoral divisions (870[1])	Electoral wards (1222[1])	Electoral wards (582[1])	10,679

[1] As at December 2003. The figure for England includes five parishes on the Isles of Scilly, which is not warded; the figure for Scotland includes four LAU2 areas that form two electoral wards.

Annex B

NSPD RECORD SPECIFICATION

Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
7	Unit postcode – 7 character version	AB1∆1AA-ZE999ZZ (maximum range)	All current ('live') postcodes within the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, received monthly from Royal Mail. Also, all terminated ('closed') postcodes that have not been subsequently re-used by Royal Mail within the United Kingdom and by the postal administrations in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. 2, 3 or 4 character outward code - left aligned; 3 character inward code - right aligned; 3rd and 4th characters may be blank (∆).		**PCD**
8	Unit postcode – 8 character version	AB1∆∆1AA-ZE99∆9ZZ (maximum range)	As above, except: 2, 3 or 4-character outward code - left aligned; 3-character inward code - right aligned; 5th character always blank and possibly 3rd and 4th characters blank also (∆).		**PCD2**
8	Unit postcode - variable length (e-Gif) version	AB1∆1AA∆-ZE99∆9ZZ (maximum range)	2, 3 or 4-character outward code Single space (∆) 3-character inward code		**PCDS**
6	Date of introduction	YYYYMM - year and month	The most recent occurrence of the postcode's date of introduction.		**DOINTR**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments		Assignment method	Field name
6	Date of termination	YYYYMM - year and month or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	If present, the most recent occurrence of the postcodes's date of termination, otherwise: ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = 'live' postcode.			**DOTERM**
2	County	00, 09-47, 95, 99 or ΔΔ	00 = preceding UA code – E, W & S (pseudo); 09-47 = county (England); 95 = Northern Ireland; 99 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔ = no information available.	Collectively known as the 'ward code'. The administrative and electoral areas to which the 1 metre postcode grid reference has been assigned using point-in-polygon techniques and Boundary-Line™ digital administrative and electoral boundaries. Pseudo codes are included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. For non-geographic postcodes these fields will generally be blank. The field will also be blank for postcodes with no grid reference.	Assigned by the Gridlink Consortium	**OSCTY**
2	Local authority district/unitary authority	AA-MW; UB-UQ: NA-PT; QA-RJ; (maximum ranges) AΔ-ZΔ, ZZ or ΔΔ	AA-MW (UA), UB-UQ (District) = England; NA-PT (UA) = Wales; QA-RJ (UA) = Scotland; AΔ-ZΔ = Northern Ireland; ZZ = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔ = no information available.			**OSLAUA**
2	(Electoral) ward/division	FA-ZZ; MA-MZ; 01-99; (maximum range); 00 or ΔΔ	FA-ZZ = England and Wales; MA-MZ = Scotland; 01-99 Northern Ireland; 00 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔ = no information available.			**OSWARD**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	Postcode user type	0 or 1	0 = small user; 1 = large user. Shows whether the postcode is a small or large user.		**USERTYPE**
4 or 6	National grid reference - Easting	4 or 6 character numeric grid reference or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ (max)	The Ordnance Survey postcode grid reference Easting to 1 metre or 100 metres resolution; blank for postcodes in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Grid references for postcodes in Northern Ireland relate to the Irish Grid system.	Assigned by the Gridlink Consortium	**OSEAST1M** **OSEAST100M**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
5 or 7	National grid reference - Northing	5 or 7 character numeric grid reference or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ (max)	The Ordnance Survey postcode grid reference Northing to 1 metre or 100 metres resolution; blank for postcodes in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Grid references for postcodes in Northern Ireland relate to the Irish Grid system.	Assigned by the Gridlink Consortium	**OSNRTH1M** **OSNRTH100M**
1	Grid reference positional quality indicator	1-6, 8-9	Shows the status of the assigned grid reference: 1 = within the building of the matched address closest to the postcode mean; 2 = as for status value 1, except by visual inspection of Landline maps (Scotland only); 3 = approximate to within 50 metres; 4 = postcode unit mean (mean of matched addresses with the same postcode, but not snapped to a building); 5 = imputed by ONS, by reference to surrounding postcode grid references; 6 = postcode sector mean, (mainly PO Boxes); 8 = postcode terminated prior to Gridlink® initiative, last known ONS postcode grid reference[2]; 9 = no grid references available.		**OSGRDIND**

[2] Customers taking 1 metre grid references should note that the terminated postcodes with an '8' code are those that were terminated prior to the Gridlink® initiative which became operational in November 2000. The grid references are those assigned by ONS for postcodes in England and Wales and those assigned by the General Register Office for Scotland and the Department for Economic Development in Northern Ireland for their respective postcodes. Consequently, the grid references for England and Wales will be mainly to 100 metre resolution while the grid references for other parts of the UK will be to 10 metre resolution.

Postcodes terminated since November 2000 retain the same positional quality indicators as they had prior to their termination.

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
3	Strategic health authority/ health board/ health authority/ health and social services board	Q30-Q39; Q99; SA9-SZ9; YAC-YAF; ZE0-ZW0; or ΔΔΔ	The health area code for the postcode. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. Q30-Q39 = strategic health authorities in England; Q99 = pseudo health authority code in Wales; S = health boards in Scotland; Y = health authorities in the Channel Is/IoM; Z = health and social services boards in NI; ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Assigned by the Gridlink Consortium via look-up from ward (supplied by ONS)	**OSHLTHAU**
3	Pan SHA/ Country	Y51-Y53; S00; W00; X00; Z00; or ΔΔΔ	The Pan SHA responsible for the associated strategic health authority for each postcode in England. Pan SHAs are now used instead of 'IT Clusters', which were abolished on 31 March 2007. Pseudo codes are included for Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. Y = Pan SHA in England; S00 = Scotland (pseudo); W00 = Wales (pseudo); X00 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); Z00 = Northern Ireland (pseudo); ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Look-up from Strategic Health Authority	**HRO**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
3	Country	044, 064, 128, 152, 179 or 220	The code for the appropriate country (i.e. one of the four constituent countries of the United Kingdom or the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) to which each postcode is assigned. 044 = Channel Islands; 064 = England; 128 = Isle of Man; 152 = Northern Ireland; 179 = Scotland; 220 = Wales	Look-up from L.A. District (E, W & S) and look-up from postcode (NI, CI & IoM)	**CTRY**
1	PO Box/ non-geographic indicator	0-3 or Δ	Shows whether or not a postcode is a PO Box and/or non-geographic (in which case, the postcode would not be expected to have associated areal data): 0 = neither PO Box nor non-geographic postcode; 1 = PO Box postcode; 2 = non-geographic postcode; 3 = PO Box and non-geographic postcode; Δ = unknown (mostly terminated postcodes for which a postcode type cannot be identified).		**GENIND**
1	PAF indicator	1 or Δ	Shows whether the postcode has been received by ONS on Royal Mail's monthly postcode input derived from the Postcode Address File (PAF). 1 = postcode yet to appear on Royal Mail's Postcode Address File (PAF); Δ = postcode obtained from PAF.		**PAFIND**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	Government Office Region (GOR)	A, B, D-H, J, K, W-Z or Δ	The Government Office Region code for each postcode. Pseudo codes are included for Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Channel Island and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. A, B, D-H, J and K = GORs in England; W = Wales (pseudo); X = Scotland (pseudo); Y = Northern Ireland (pseudo); Z = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); Δ = no information available.	Look-up from county or UA	**GOR**
1	Standard (statistical) region (SSR)	0-9 or Δ	The Standard Region code for the associated county or unitary authority to which each postcode is assigned. A pseudo code is included for postcodes not in England. For PO Boxes and non-geographic postcodes this field will generally be blank. This field will also be blank for new postcodes for which a grid reference cannot be imputed. 1-8 = former standard statistical regions in England; 9 = Wales (pseudo); 0 = postcode not in England or Wales (pseudo); Δ = no information available.	Look-up from county or UA	**STREG**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
3	Westminster Parliamentary constituency	001-900 or ΔΔΔ (code range contains gaps)	The Westminster Parliamentary Constituency code for each postcode. Pseudo codes are included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. 001-529 = England; 530-569 = Wales; 801-859 = Scotland; 701-718 = Northern Ireland; 800 = Channel Islands (pseudo); 900 = Isle of Man (pseudo); ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS/NI	**PCON**
2	(European) Electoral Region (EER)	01-12, 99 or ΔΔ	The European Electoral Region code for each postcode. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. 01-09 = England; 10 = Wales; 11 = Scotland; 12 = Northern Ireland; 99 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**EER**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
3	Training and Enterprise Council/ Local Enterprise Company (TEC/LEC)	001-905, W11-W14, S01-S24, N99, Z99, or ΔΔΔ	The Training and Enterprise Council (in England and Wales) or Local Enterprise Company (in Scotland) code for each postcode. In England, TECs have now been replaced by Learning and Skills Councils, and in Wales by Education and Learning Wales regions. However, the NSPD does not currently contain these new geographies. There are no equivalent areas in Northern Ireland, but pseudo codes are included for Northern Ireland and also for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. 001-905 = England; W11-W14 = Wales; S01-S24 = Scotland; N99 = Northern Ireland (pseudo); Z99 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS	**TECLEC**
3	Travel-to-work area (TTWA)	001-314; 999 or ΔΔΔ	The Travel to Work Area code for the postcode. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. 001-314 = United Kingdom; 999 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔ = no information available. Travel-to-work areas are as defined in 1998 and are based on those electoral ward boundaries existing on 21 April 1991 (Census day).	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS/NI	**TTWA**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
5	Primary Care Trust (PCT) Local Health Board (LHB) Care Trust Care Trust Plus Community Health Partnership (CHP)	5AAΔΔ-5ZZΔΔ (maximum range) for PCT; 6A1ΔΔ-6C4ΔΔ (maximum range) for LHB; TACΔΔ, TAKΔΔ, TALΔΔ, TAMΔΔ; TANΔΔ; 001ΔΔ-042ΔΔ (maximum range) for CHP; X98ΔΔ; ΔΔΔΔΔ	The code for the Primary Care areas in England, LHBs in Wales and CHPs in Scotland; There are no equivalent areas in Northern Ireland, Channel Islands or Isle of Man. Codes are assigned by a 'point-in-polygon' methodology because the underlying electoral ward geography used to define the Primary Care areas have been subject to boundary changes in some instances. A pseudo code is included for Northern Ireland and also for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. X98 = Northern Ireland/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available	Point-in-polygon	**PCT**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
10	NUTS areas[3]		NUTS is a hierarchical classification of spatial units that provides a breakdown of the European Union's territory for producing regional statistics which are comparable across the Union. The NUTS area classification in the United Kingdom comprises current national administrative and electoral areas, except in Scotland where some NUTS areas comprise whole and/or part Local Enterprise Company areas. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. There are nine NUTS1 areas in England, which match the nine Government Office Regions. The countries of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland each constitute a single NUTS1 area. For details of NUTS2/3 and LAU1/2, please see Annex A.	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS/NI	**NUTS**
		UKC1101001-UKN0507021 (maximum ranges); ZZZ9999999; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	UKC1101001-UKK4308021 = England; UKL1100001-UKL2400082 = Wales; UKM1001-UKM4600 = Scotland; UKN0100001-UKN0507021 = N Ireland; ZZZ9999999 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available. Characters 1-3 = NUTS1 level; characters 1-4 = NUTS2 level; characters 1-5 = NUTS3 level; characters 1-7 = LAU1 level; characters 1-10 = LAU2 level.		

[3] Nomenclature of Units for Territorial Statistics, a classification of spatial units used within the UK for producing regional statistics for comparison with other regions within the European Union.

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
8	1991 Census Enumeration District (ED)	(OGSS[4] code range) 01AAFA01-63UEFZ14; 95AΔ0101-95ZΔ1506; 99ZZ0099; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The code for the 1991 Census ED in which all addresses in a postcode are contained (or the single best-fit ED based on the largest number of 1991 Census households in the postcode split parts) or a single ED identifier for postcodes introduced since the 1991 Census, assigned by a 'point-in-polygon' methodology. A pseudo code is included for Scotland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. England & Wales = 2-digit county code, 2-digit district code, 2-digit ward code, 2-digit ED code; Northern Ireland = 2-digit county code, 1-digit district code, 2-digit ward code, 2-digit ED code; 99ZZ0099 = Scotland, Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**PSED**
6	1991 Census Enumeration District (ED)	(1991 Census code range) AAFA01- UEFZ14; AΔ0101 – ZΔ1506; ZZ0099; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	Same as above except a Census code is provided. England & Wales = 2-digit district code, 2-digit ward code, 2-digit ED code; Northern Ireland = 1-digit district code, 2-digit ward code, 2-digit ED code; ZZ0099 = Scotland, Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**CENED**

[4] Office Geographical Support Service (1991).

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	ED positional quality indicator	1, 6, 9 or Δ	Shows the status of the assigned ED. If there is no indicator (i.e. a blank) and an ED code is provided, the postcode existed at the 1991 Census and the ED code is an original 1991 Census assignment. 1 = assigned by point-in-polygon technique; 6 = postcode in Northern Ireland; 9 = postcode in Scotland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man; Δ = no information available.		**EDIND**
4	Address count	0-9999 (maximum range); or ΔΔΔΔ	Numeric count taken from PAF. (Number of addresses excluding small businesses/non-residential.)		**ADDRCT**
4	Delivery point count	0-9999 (maximum range); or ΔΔΔΔ	Numeric count taken from PAF. (Total number of delivery points.)		**DPCT**
4	Multiple occupancy count	0-9999 (maximum range); or ΔΔΔΔ	Numeric count taken from PAF. (Count of households that are multi-occupied.)		**MOCT**
4	Small business count	0-9999 (maximum range); or ΔΔΔΔ	Numeric count taken from PAF. (Number of small businesses.)		**SMLBUSCT**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
3	Previous Strategic health authority/ health board/ health authority/ health and social services board	Q01-Q28 (maximum range); Q99; SA9-SZ9; YAC-YAF; ZE0-ZW0; or ΔΔΔ	The health area code for the postcode prior to the NHS reorganisation on 1 July 2006. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. Q01-Q28 = strategic health authorities in England; Q99 = pseudo health authority code in Wales; S = health boards in Scotland; Y = health authorities in the Channel Is/IoM; Z = health and social services boards in NI; ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**OSHAPREV**
3	Local Education Authority (LEA)/ Education and Library Board (ELB)	201-938 (code range contains gaps); 660-681; QA-RJ; 951-955; 99Z; or ΔΔΔ	The LEA[5] (ELB in Northern Ireland) code for each postcode. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. England = 3 digit numeric LEA code; Wales = 3 digit numeric LEA code; Scotland = 2 char alpha district code; Northern Ireland = 95, single digit numeric ELB code; 99Z = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon (E&W) and look-up from L.A. District (NI)	**LEA**

[5] Each county, London borough, metropolitan district and unitary authority forms a Local Education Authority. The Isles of Scilly has a Local Education Authority separate from the Authority covering Cornwall.

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
3	Health Authority 'old-style'	QAA-QZZ* (maximum range); SA9-SZ9; YAC-YAF; ZE0-ZW0; or ΔΔΔ * the last character may be numeric	The 'old-style' health authority existing prior to the reorganisation of health areas (England in 2002, Wales in 2003). Q = health authorities in England and Wales; S = health boards in Scotland; Y = health authorities in Channel Is/IoM; Z = health and social services boards in NI; ΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**OLDHA**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
6	1991 ward (Census code range)	01AAFA-55TTFZ; 71UB01-82UB30; 95AΔ01-95ZΔ51; 99ZZ00; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The 1991 administrative and electoral areas to which the 1 metre postcode grid reference has been assigned using point-in-polygon techniques and digital administrative and electoral boundaries. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. England & Wales = {2-digit county code Scotland = {2-digit district code {2-digit ward code Northern Ireland = 2-digit county code 1-digit district code 2-digit ward code 99ZZ00 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS	**WARDC91**
6	1991 ward (OGSS[6] code range)	01AAFA-63UEFZ; 71UB01-82UB30; 95AΔ01-95ZΔ51; 99ZZ00; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	Same as above except an OGSS[4] code is provided. England & Wales = {2-digit county code Scotland = {2-digit district code {2-digit ward code Northern Ireland = 2-digit county code 1-digit district code 2-digit ward code 99ZZ00 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS	**WARDO91**

[6] Office Geographical Support Service (1991).

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
6	1998 ward	00AAFA-47UGFT; 00NAMA-00PTNE; 00QA01-00RJ30; 95AΔ01-95ZΔ51; 99ZZ00; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The 1998 administrative and electoral areas for each postcode, assigned using point-in-polygon techniques and digital administrative and electoral boundaries. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. England} {2-digit county code Wales} = {2-digit district code Scotland} {2-digit ward code Northern Ireland = {2-digit county code {1-digit district code {2-digit ward code 99ZZ00 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon and input from GROS	**WARD98**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
6	2005 'statistical' ward (England and Wales only)	00AAFA-47UGGM; 00NAMA- 00PTPL; 99ZZ00; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The administrative and electoral areas in England and Wales only, used for statistical analysis, for each postcode, assigned using point-in-polygon techniques and advance digital administrative and electoral boundaries from a range of sources. A pseudo code is included for Scotland, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. 01-47 = English county code 00 = UA code England AA-UG = district/UA code FA-GM = ward code Wales NA-PT = UA code MA-PL = ward code 99ZZ00 = Scotland, NI, Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**STATSWARD**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
10	Output Area	00AAFA0001-47UGGM0016; 00NAMA0001-00PTPL0054; 60QA000001-60RJ999999; 95AA010001-95ZZ519999; 99ZZ009999; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The 2001 Census Output Areas were built from unit postcodes and constrained to 2003 'statistical' wards, and they form the building bricks for defining higher level geographies. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. England and Wales - 01-47 = English county code 00 = English/Welsh UA England AA-UG = district/UA code FA-GM = ward code Wales NA-PT = UA code MA-PL = ward code Scotland 60 = county code QA-RJ = UA code Northern Ireland 95 = county code AA-ZZ = district code 01-51 = ward code 99ZZ009999 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available N.B. If Output Areas codes are subject to future change; a one-for-one matrix list will be made available.	Point-in-polygon (E, W & NI) and input from GROS	**OACODE**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	Output Area indicator	0, 6, 7, 9 or Δ	Shows the status of the assigned Output Area code. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. 0 = Assigned to the listed COA via point-in-polygon using the Gridlink grid reference; 6 = NI Output Area codes; 7 = Scottish Output Area codes; 9 = Channel Is/IoM (Pseudo); Δ = no information available		**OAIND**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
6	Census Area Statistics (CAS) ward		Sub-threshold wards (those below the threshold for creating COAs and for the non-disclosive release of Census data) are not separately identified in this field and postcodes in these 'statistical wards' have been assigned to their 'receiving ward'. The resulting set of wards is known as 'Census Area Statistics (CAS) Wards'. A pseudo code is included for Channel Island and Isle of Man. England, Wales and Scotland - 01-47 = county code / 00 = UA	Look-up from COA code (E, W & NI) and input from GROS	**CASWARD**
		00AAFA-47UGGM; 00NAMA-00PTPL; 01C01-32C31 ; 95AA01-95ZZ51; 99ZZ00; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔ	England AA-UG = district/UA code FA-GM = CAS ward code Wales NA-PT = UA code MA-PL = CAS ward code Scotland 01C-32C = UA code 01-99 = CAS ward code 99C99 = Scottish postcode with no CAS ward assigned Northern Ireland 95 = county code AA-ZZ = district code 01-51 = CAS ward code 99ZZ00 = Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available.		

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
2	National Park	01-15; 99; or ΔΔ	The National Parks, covering parts of England, Wales and Scotland. The field will be blank for postcodes in areas outside the National Parks coverage or with no grid reference. 01-15 = National Park in England, Wales or Scotland; 99 = not within a National Park/postcode in NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔ = no information available.	Point-in-polygon	**PARK**
9	Lower Layer Super Output Area	E01000001-E01032482; W01000001-W01001896; Z99999999; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The Lower Layer SOA code for each postcode in England and Wales. A pseudo code is included for Scotland (covered by data zones – see below), Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. E01000001- E01032482 = Lower Layer SOA in England; W01000001- W01001896 = Lower Layer SOA in Wales; Z99999999 = postcode in Scotland/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available	Look-up from COA code	**SOA1**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
9	Scottish data zone	S01000001-S01006505; Z99999999; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The data zone code for each postcode in Scotland. A pseudo code is included for England and Wales (covered by Lower Layer SOAs – see above), Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. S01000001- S01006505 = data zone in Scotland; Z9999999 = postcode in England/Wales/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available	Input from GROS	**DZONE1**
9	Middle Layer Super Output Area	E02000001-E02006781; W02000001-W02000413; Z99999999; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The Middle Layer SOA code for each postcode in England and Wales. A pseudo code is included for Scotland, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. Middle Layer SOAs sit above Lower Layer SOAs. E02000001- E02006781 = Middle Layer SOA in England; W02000001- W02000413 = Middle Layer SOA in Wales; Z99999999 = postcode in Scotland/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available	Look-up from COA code	**SOA2**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	Urban/Rural Indicator (England & Wales)	1- 9, or Δ	Urban and rural classification of Output Areas for England and Wales. : 1 = Urban ≥ 10k – sparse: COA falls within Urban settlements with a population of 10,000 or more and the wider surrounding area is sparsely populated; 2 = Town and Fringe – sparse: COA falls within the Small Town and Fringe areas category and the wider surrounding area is sparsely populated; 3 = Village – sparse: COA falls within the Village category and the wider surrounding area is sparsely populated; 4 = Hamlet and Isolated Dwelling – sparse: COA falls within the Hamlet & Isolated Dwelling category and the wider surrounding area is sparsely populated; 5 = Urban ≥ 10k – less sparse: COA falls within Urban settlements with a population of 10,000 or more and the wider surrounding area is less sparsely populated; 6 = Town and Fringe – less sparse: COA falls within the Small Town and Fringe areas category and the wider surrounding area is less sparsely populated; 7 = Village – less sparse: COA falls within the Village category and the wider surrounding area is less sparsely populated; 8 = Hamlet and Isolated Dwelling – less sparse: COA falls within the Hamlet & Isolated Dwelling category and the wider surrounding area is less sparsely populated; 9 = postcode in Scotland/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); Δ = no information available	Look-up from COA code	**URINDEW**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	Urban/Rural Indicator (Scotland)	1- 9, or Δ	Urban and rural classification of postcodes for Scotland. A pseudo code is included for England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man: 1 = Large Urban Area: Settlement of over 125,000 people; 2 = Other Urban Area: Settlement of 10,000 to 125,000 people; 3 = Accessible Small Town: Settlement of 3,000 to 10,000 people, within 30 minutes drive of a settlement of 10,000 or more; 4 = Remote Small Town: Settlement of 3,000 to 10,000 people, with a drive time of 30 to 60 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more; 5 = Very Remote Small Town: Settlement of 3,000 to 10,000 people, with a drive time of over 60 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more; 6 = Accessible Rural: Settlement of less than 3,000 people, within 30 minutes drive of a settlement of 10,000 or more; 7 = Remote Rural: Settlement of less than 3,000 people, with a drive time of 30 to 60 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more; 8 = Very Remote Rural: Settlement of less than 3,000 people, with a drive time of over 60 minutes to a settlement of 10,000 or more; 9 = postcode in England/Wales/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); Δ = no information available	Input from GROS	**URINDSC**

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
1	Urban/Rural Indicator (Northern Ireland)		Urban and rural classification of postcodes for Northern Ireland. A pseudo code is included for England, Wales, Scotland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man:	Look-up from COA code	**URINDNI**
		A – E (Urban);	A = Belfast Metropolitan Urban Area ; B = Derry Urban Area; C = Large Town: 18,000 and under 75,000 people; D = Medium Town: 10,000 and under 18,000 people; E = Small Town: 4,500 and under 10,000 people;		
		F – H (Rural);	F = Intermediate Settlement: 2,250 and under 4,500 people; G = Village: 1,000 and under 2,250 people; H = Small Village, Hamlet or Open Countryside: less than 1,000 people;		
		Z;	Z = postcode in England/Wales/Scotland/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo);		
		or Δ	Δ = no information available		
9	Intermediate zone (Scotland)		The geography above data zones for each postcode in Scotland, with a minimum population of 2,500 - 6,000. There are 1235 intermediate zones. A pseudo code is included for postcodes in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.	Input from GROS	**DZONE2**
		S02000001 – S02001235;	S02000001 - S02001235 = intermediate zone in Scotland;		
		Z99999999;	Z99999999 = postcode in England/Wales/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo);		
		or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available		

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Length	Data description	Range of codes	Comments	Assignment method	Field name
8	Super Output Area (Northern Ireland)	95AA01S1 – 95ZZ16S2; 99ZZ99Z9; or ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ	The SOA code for each postcode in Northern Ireland. A pseudo code is included for England and Wales (covered by Lower Layer SOAs – see above), Scotland (covered by data zones – see also above), Channel Islands and Isle of Man. 95AA01S1 - 95ZZ16S2 = SOA in Northern Ireland; 99ZZ99Z9 = postcode in England/Wales/Scotland/ Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available	Look-up from COA code	**SOA1NI**
3	Output Area Classification	1A1 – 7B2; 9Z9; or ΔΔΔ	The OA classification code for each postcode in the UK. A pseudo code is included for Channel Islands and Isle of Man. 1A1 – 7B2 = OA classification in UK; 9Z9 = postcode in Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔ = no information available	Look-up from COA code	**OAC**
5	'Old' Primary Care Trust (PCT) Local Health Board (LHB) Care Trust	5AAΔΔ-5ZZΔΔ (maximum range) for PCT; 6A1ΔΔ-6C4ΔΔ (maximum range) for LHB; TACΔΔ, TAGΔΔ, TAKΔΔ, TALΔΔ; X98ΔΔ; ΔΔΔΔΔ	The pre-October 2006 code for the Primary Care areas in England and Wales; Primary Care areas do not exist in Scotland or Northern Ireland. Codes are assigned by a 'point-in-polygon' methodology because the underlying electoral ward geography used to define the Primary Care areas have been subject to boundary changes in some instances. A dummy code has been assigned to postcodes in Scotland and Northern Ireland. The field will be blank for postcodes with no grid reference. X98 = Scotland/NI/Channel Is/IoM (pseudo); ΔΔΔΔΔ = no information available	Point-in-polygon	**OLDPCT**

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Annex C

DATA FORMATS

Available on CD-ROM or DVD -R in ASCII text, Comma Separated Variable, MS Access 2000 and DBASE IV compatible format.

File name: NSPDa_mmm_yyyy_bb_ccc

Where ‘a’ = ‘F’ (Full) or ‘C’ (Core) – see Section 1
Where ‘mmm’ = month e.g. ‘NOV’
Where ‘yyyy’ = year e.g. ‘2007’
Where ‘bb’ = area of coverage e.g. ‘UK’
Where ‘ccc’ = grid reference resolution e.g. ‘100M’

Format: ASCII
File type: .txt
Record length: 218 (maximum)

Format: Comma Separated Variable
File type: .csv
Record length: 218 (maximum)

Format: MS Access 2000
File type: .mdb

Format: DBASE IV compatible
File type: .dbf

Annex D

SUB-THRESHOLD WARDS AND THEIR 'RECEIVING WARDS'

Sub-threshold ward code	Sub-threshold ward name	Receiving ward code	Receiving ward name
City of London			
00AAFC	Bassishaw	00AAFE	Bishopsgate
00AAFH	Broad Street	00AAFE	Bishopsgate
00AAFM	Coleman Street	00AAFE	Bishopsgate
00AAFK	Castle Baynard	00AAFS	Farringdon Within
00AAFF	Bread Street	00AAFY	Queenhithe
00AAFL	Cheap	00AAFY	Queenhithe
00AAFN	Cordwainer	00AAFY	Queenhithe
00AAGA	Vintry	00AAFY	Queenhithe
00AAFB	Aldgate	00AAFZ	Tower
00AAFD	Billingsgate	00AAFZ	Tower
00AAFW	Lime Street	00AAFZ	Tower
00AAFG	Bridge & Bridge Without	00AAGB	Walbrook
00AAFJ	Candlewick	00AAGB	Walbrook
00AAFP	Cornhill	00AAGB	Walbrook
00AAFR	Dowgate	00AAGB	Walbrook
00AAFU	Langbourn	00AAGB	Walbrook
Isles of Scilly			
15UHFA	Bryher	15UHFB	St. Agnes
Lancaster			
30UHHH	University	30UHGN	Ellel

Annex E

USEFUL WEB LINKS

Ward History Database

Standard Names and Codes (SNAC) Database

Royal Mail Postcode Updates

Urban Rural Classification

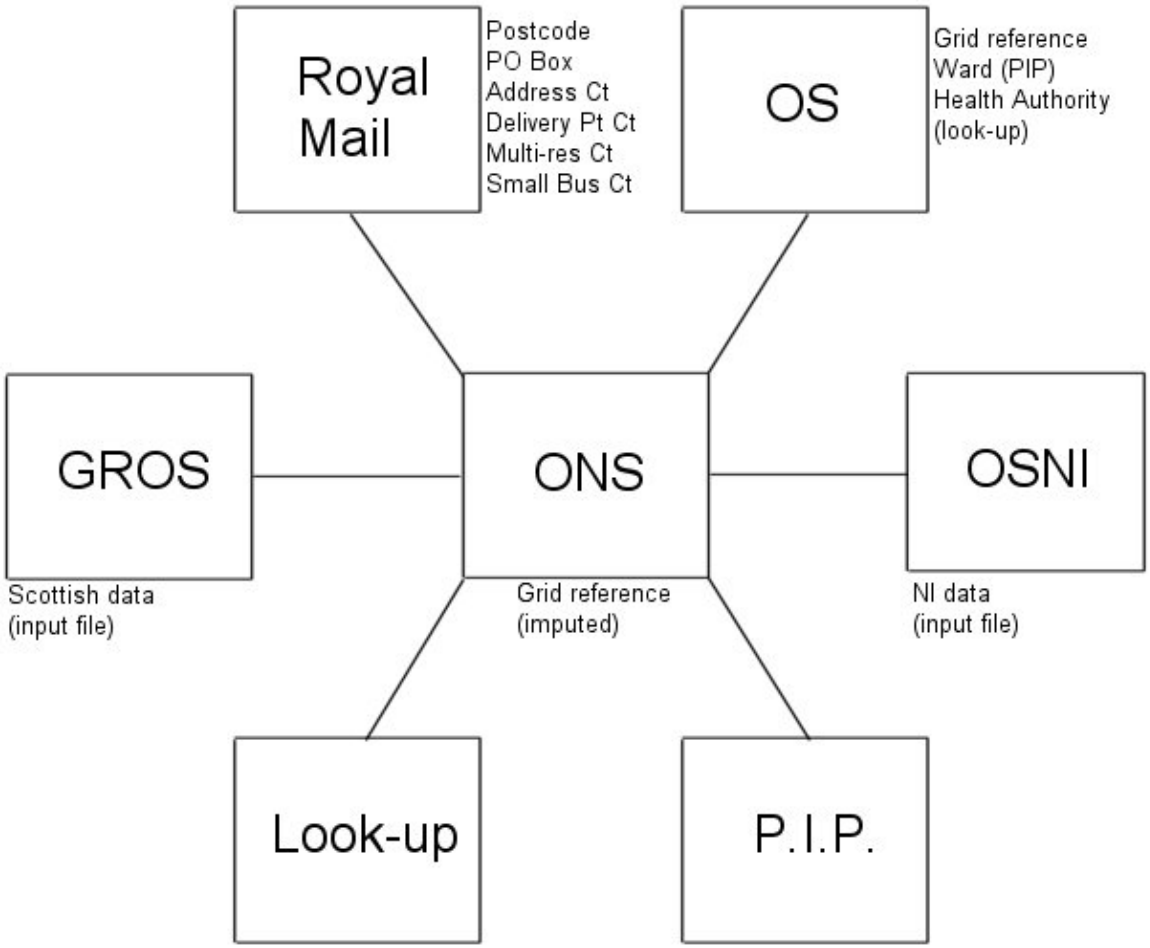
Census Output Area Allocation Corrections

OA Classification Details

Annex F

GEOGRAPHY ALLOCATION DIAGRAM

This diagram shows the data supplied to ONS through the Gridlink® process, and the methodology for adding each geography to the NSPD.



Super Output Area (from COA)
Urban/Rural indicator (from COA)
Pan SHA (from SHA)
Country (from LAD)
Government Office Region (from LAD)
Standard (Statistical) Region (from LAD)
CAS ward (from COA)

2001 Census OA
Parliamentary Constituency
European Electoral Region
TEC
Travel-to-work Area
Primary Care area
NUTS
1991 Census ED
Local Education Authority
Old Health Authority
1991 ward
1998 ward
Statistical ward
National Park
Old Primary Care Trust

Annex G

FULL PRODUCT FIELD SPECIFICATION

Length	Name	Field name
7	Postcode – 7 chars	PCD
8	Postcode – 8 chars	PCD2
8	Postcode – single space (e-Gif)	PCDS
6	Date of introduction	DOINTR
6	Date of termination	DOTERM
2	County	OSCTY
2	LA Dist/UA	OSLAUA
2	Ward	OSWARD
1	Usertype	USERTYPE
4 or 6	Grid ref Easting	OSEAST1M OSEAST100M
5 or 7	Grid ref Northing	OSNRTH1M OSNRTH100M
1	Grid ref PQI	OSGRDIND
3	Strategic Health Authority	OSHLTHAU
3	IT Cluster	HRO
3	Country	CTRY
1	PO Box indicator	GENIND
1	PAF indicator	PAFIND
1	GOR	GOR
1	Standard Statistical Region	STREG
3	Parliamentary Constituency	PCON
2	European Electoral Region	EER
3	TEC/LEC	TECLEC
3	Travel to Work Area	TTWA
5	Primary Care Organisation	PCT
10	NUTS	NUTS
8	1991 Census ED (OGSS)	PSED
6	1991 Census ED (Census)	CENED
1	ED indicator	EDIND
4	Address count	ADDRCT
4	Delivery Point count	DPCT
4	Multi-occupancy count	MOCT
4	Small Business count	SMLBUSCT
3	Pre July 2006 SHA	OSHAPREV
3	Local Education Authority	LEA
3	Pre 2002 Health Authority	OLDHA
6	1991 ward code (Census)	WARDC91
6	1991 ward code (OGSS)	WARDO91
6	1998 ward code	WARD98
6	2005 Statistical ward	STATSWARD
10	OA code	OACODE
1	OA indicator	OAIND
6	CAS ward	CASWARD
2	National Park	PARK
9	SOA (Lower layer)	SOA1
9	Datazone	DZONE1
9	SOA (Middle layer)	SOA2
1	Urban/Rural indicator (E&W)	URINDEW
1	Urban/Rural indicator (Scot)	URINDSC
1	Urban/Rural indicator (NI)	URINDNI
9	Intermediate Geography	DZONE2
8	SOA (NI)	SOA1NI
3	OA Classification	OAC
5	Pre October 2006 PCO	OLDPCT

Annex H

CORE PRODUCT FIELD SPECIFICATION

Length	Name	Field name
7	Postcode – 7 chars	PCD
8	Postcode – 8 chars	PCD2
8	Postcode – single space (e-Gif)	PCDS
6	Date of introduction	DOINTR
6	Date of termination	DOTERM
2	County	OSCTY
2	LA Dist/UA	OSLAUA
2	Ward	OSWARD
1	Usertype	USERTYPE
4 or 6	Grid ref Easting	OSEAST1M OSEAST100M
5 or 7	Grid ref Northing	OSNRTH1M OSNRTH100M
1	Grid ref PQI	OSGRDIND
3	Strategic Health Authority	OSHLTHAU
3	Country	CTRY
1	PO Box indicator	GENIND
1	PAF indicator	PAFIND
1	GOR	GOR
1	Standard Statistical Region	STREG
3	Parliamentary Constituency	PCON
2	European Electoral Region	EER
10	NUTS	NUTS
4	Address count	ADDRCT
4	Delivery Point count	DPCT
4	Multi-occupancy count	MOCT
4	Small Business count	SMLBUSCT
3	Pre July 2006 SHA	OSHAPREV
3	Pre 2002 Health Authority	OLDHA
6	1991 ward code (Census)	WARDC91
6	1991 ward code (OGSS)	WARDO91
6	1998 ward code	WARD98
10	OA code	OACODE
1	OA indicator	OAIND
6	CAS ward	CASWARD
9	SOA (Lower layer)	SOA1
9	Datazone	DZONE1
9	SOA (Middle layer)	SOA2
1	Urban/Rural indicator (E&W)	URINDEW
1	Urban/Rural indicator (Scot)	URINDSC
1	Urban/Rural indicator (NI)	URINDNI
9	Intermediate Geography	DZONE2
8	SOA (NI)	SOA1NI
3	OA Classification	OAC